

# The Planters' Chronicle.

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## THE U. P. A. S. I.

(INCORPORATED.)

### Contents.

The Scientific Officer continues his very interesting Report on a Tour in Travancore High Range, dealing with Pests and Diseases and the best methods of eradicating them.

The Planting Expert, Mr. R. D. Anstead, B.A., returned to headquarters on Monday, 14th April, from South Mysore, where he had been to inspect the area infected with Green Bug. A note on his visit and the pest will be found under the heading, 'Scientific Department' in this issue. Mr. Anstead thinks there is no cause for any panic, as the Bug is being dealt with in a thorough way and is under control. The Mysore Agricultural Department are co-operating with the Scientific Department of the U.P.A. S.I. in supervising the stamping out of the disease in the Estates of Indian Planters and Dr. Coleman will probably pay a visit to the infected area shortly.

The Scientific Department publishes an article on 'Green Manures' and gives an analysis of a practically new plant. It is to be noted that only a very small amount of seed is available at this Office.

A report of the 49th Annual General Meeting of the South Mysore Planters' Association is published, the most prominent feature of which is the strongly-worded speech of the Chairman on the subject of the Mangalore Railway, and the Resolution passed at the Meeting expressing the unalterable opinion of the Association as to the necessity of this Railway.

From Mr. Dickins, Honorary Secretary, Shevaroy Planters' Association, under cover of a letter to the Editor, comes as a warning to all districts, a translation of a circular by a Labour Recruiter from Burma. There appears to be something peculiarly congenial in the air of Yercaud that attracts the Labour Recruiter of this stamp, and dulls his sense of moral obligation. This conduct cannot be too severely censured, and compares most unfavourably with the words quoted in our last issue from the Ceylon Labour Commissioner's Report, which merit and will receive the approval of all the Planting Community of Southern India.

**Scientific Officer's Papers.****CXVII.—REPORT ON A TOUR IN TRAVANCORE HIGH RANGE.  
(Continued.)****PESTS AND DISEASES.**

The Tea in this district is singularly free from the usual insect and fungoid diseases, and being isolated and at a considerable distance from other planting districts it should be an easy matter to keep it free. Special care should be taken to avoid the introduction of diseases from outside, and all seed imported should be most carefully disinfected and the packages in which it comes burned. In this connection I would refer to the possibility of introducing Blister Blight from Northern India, though equal precautions should be taken to guard against the introduction of Southern Indian diseases. In the *Planters' Chronicle* (VI. 298) the method of disinfection advised by the Government Mycologist is described. The seed should be soaked for an hour in a solution of one part of Corrosive sublimate in 1,000 parts of water. \*

Fruit trees and garden plants are a particular source of danger, and these should not be imported into the district from places like Bangalore, where all kinds of scale insects and blights are common. In a recent report upon a tour in Mysore the Government Entomologist said, "when touring by rail I often see at railway stations consignments of plants and young trees, (mangoes &c.) being sent by rail and it is very rarely indeed that I am unable to detect scale insects or other pests being carried with them." Every effort should be made to keep the district free from such pests and no ornamental or economic plants should be imported unless they have been previously fumigated. A fumigatorium has been established and is working satisfactorily at the Lal Bagh Gardens in Bangalore, and if any one wishes to obtain fruit trees or plants from that place he should insist on their being treated in this fumigatorium before they are despatched. Were it ever necessary to import large quantities of nursery stock, such as Citrus plants for instance, into the district, it would be advisable to build a fumigatorium and treat them all at some convenient point on the boundary such as Bottom Station.

It must be remembered that a disease introduced into a new district is always likely to prove disastrous because it is so often imported without any of its natural enemies and, should it find the conditions suitable, it may cause more damage than in the district from which it came where a balance may exist more or less between itself and the natural forces which hold it in check.

The most important pest, and one which causes a very considerable amount of loss, in the High Range is Rats. These are dealt with chiefly by means of traps and poisons. A note in the *Punjab Agricultural Notes* on the subject of field rat extermination may prove of interest. It is there stated that, "land owners troubled with rats or mice might try a method of destruction which has been followed with success in Faridkot. An ordinary brazier is provided with a dome-shaped cover in the centre of which is a small funnel. To the funnel is attached a piece of flexible tubing and to that again an iron pipe. Sulphur is sprinkled on live charcoal in the brazier and the fumes are carried by the pipe into the rat hole. They ramify through the holes and kill the inmates. Neighbouring exit holes should be blocked up as far as possible."—*Agricultural Journal of India* VII. 2).

A very good poison is a mixture of equal weights of tar and sulphuric acid. This mixture is put down in the runs and round the holes and if a

rat steps in it he is usually killed as he will lick himself and the acid kills him. The results obtained with this poison are apparent as the rat will usually go to water and be found dead in its neighbourhood.

An attempt has been made in the district to use Ratin and some of the preparations of a similar nature, but with little success. This is probably due to the fact that the heat of the plains to which these preparations are exposed during their transport either kills the micro-organisms in the culture, or renders them so weak that they have little or no effect upon the rats. The Imperial Bacteriologist stationed at Pusa, has investigated the efficacy of Ratin and Trope Ratin as rat exterminators and in his Annual Report for 1910-11 he said, "Experiments were made with fresh samples received from England. Ratin is a bacterial culture prepared in Copenhagen, which is intended to produce an infectious disease in rats which have fed on baits treated with it, and which then spread the contagion amongst others. Although the cultures when received at Pusa were alive, as was proved by transfers, no pathogenic effects followed when given with food to captive rats. In corresponding with the Director of the Ratin Laboratory at Copenhagen, I suggested that the virulence of the cultures might be regained by cultural methods in India."

"Trope Ratin is not a bacterial culture, but a vegetable poison the principal feature of which is its toxicity for rats and mice and harmlessness for other animals. Experiments proved that its efficacy in India depends upon its use within a limited period of time after its preparation, as rapid deterioration takes place with loss of toxicity."

It is possible that Ratin might be imported into the district on ice in the same way as the ova are obtained in the attempt which was made to introduce trout into the streams, and that the doctor, or some one else with the requisite technical skill, might be able to cultivate it and obtain it in large enough quantities for use on the estates.

The way to use Ratin in the Field is to catch a number of Rats and feed them on food containing the culture until they have contracted the disease and then to set them free in rat infested places to spread the disease among their fellows.

Of actual Tea diseases, Stump Rot appears to cause the most damage in the district. I have nothing to add to the method of eradication and prevention of this disease which will be found in the pages of the *Chronicle ad nauseam*. I would only here insist upon the necessity for a generous application of lime and a big pit.

Another pest which was in evidence at the time of my visit and causing perhaps more annoyance than actual loss was 'Flush Worm.' This is a small caterpillar which rolls up a leaf round the tip of the flush and proceeds to eat the contents of this temporary shelter. This is the caterpillar of a moth closely related to *Capua coffearia* if not the same. Probably the best way to deal with it is to put on a few special pluckers to gather all these rolled up shoots and bring them in and burn them. This checks the pest because it reduces the number of caterpillars that ever reach the moth stage. This is important because it is the female moth laying hundreds of eggs which distributes the pest.

Of other diseases there were, as far as I could see, practically nothing but insignificant traces, and these so long as the vigour of the tea is maintained should never cause any trouble. Their presence is, however, a potential danger if ever the tea is allowed to run down below a certain standard of vitality, and, as I pointed out when dealing with the subject of manures,

every effort should be made to maintain the bushes in a high state of vigour. In my humble opinion the time to get an estate into tip top order and vigour and free from diseases like Stump Rot &c., is in good times when prices are high; then when bad times come the tea will be in a condition to withstand the neglect which it may be absolutely necessary to enforce upon it, and will have a store of energy to enable it to resist diseases which always lie in wait for the weakling and do more damage to unmanured, shuck, bushes, than to healthy ones.

Therefore I strongly advise all Tea planters in this district to get analyses made of their soils, carefully watch the bushes, and attend to Stump Rot patches, and other diseased places, and be ready with a systematic manurial plan and apply it at once if they see any signs of deterioration.

(To be continued.)

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

*Planting Expert.*

#### COFFEE.

Another heavy reduction in the world's visible supply, viz: 710,000 bags during February, against 678,000 bags last year, can only be looked upon as favourable to higher prices. The Brazilian receipts were heavier and it is therefore evident that the deliveries must have been very large. Although temporarily causing some advance in the terminal market, the higher rates have not been maintained, and the close is either slightly lower or the same as last week. The trade buying has become so persistently of a hand-to-mouth character that after a period of good demand, business is naturally quiet, while dealers are distributing their late purchases. Moreover, as each month brings us nearer the end of the present campaign and the beginning of the next, when it is known there will be a plentiful supply of Brazilian, it is natural for dealers to act with caution. The auctions have been well supplied with new Costa Rica and some East Indian, but with more competition rates are dearer, so that for the present the lowest point seems to have been passed. Colourly Costa Rica shows the greatest advance, and it is quite 3s. higher than about a fortnight ago.

#### WORLD'S VISIBLE SUPPLY OF COFFEE, 1ST MARCH, 1913.

		Stock	
		1913.	1912.
		Bags.	Bags.
EUROPE—			
Copenhagen	...	71,000	69,000
Bremen	...	152,000	146,000
Hamburg	...	1,988,000	1,781,000
Holland	...	550,000	607,000
England	...	209,000	201,000
Antwerp	...	344,000	1,167,000
Havre	...	479,000	2,468,000
Bordeaux	...	44,000	32,000
Marseilles	...	157,000	133,000
Trieste	...	281,000	354,000
		6,875,000	6,958,000
Afloat to Europe	...	497,000	354,000
Visible Supply, Europe...		7,372,000	7,312,000

—Produce Market Review.

## THE SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U.P.A.S.I.

**Green Manures.**—Green Manures are of two kinds, those which are grown with the main object of adding organic matter to the soil, and those which are grown with the main object of adding Nitrogen to the soil. The latter class are the leguminous plants and the most familiar to planters in Southern India.

Some time ago my attention was called to a plant which had been grown in a small clearing of Robusta coffee and cut and dug in. The particular clearing was a great success and a large portion of the success was put down to the green dressing which at the time was thought to be a legume. Specimens have been indentified by the Acting Government Botanist and it proves to be an Acanthaceous plant, and not a legume at all, *Peristrophe bicalyculata*.—It is an erect spreading bushy plant with small, entire leaves 2 inches by 1 inch, with small rose pink flowers. It grew to a height of about 18 inches and formed compact little bushes some 2 feet or more in diameter on the ground which it covered well, keeping down weeds very effectually. It is a surface rooted plant with a root spread of some eight inches on each side. It provided a good deal of material to cut and bury, or use as a mulch, at the time it began to flower. An analysis was made of this cut material which consisted of stems and leaves, but no thick woody parts or roots. The air dried material gave the following figures:—

	Cuttings, Air dried.	Ash.
Moisture	9.30	—
Organic Matter	82.12	—
Silica	0.33	3.79
Phosphoric Acid	0.38	4.31
Ash Potash	2.35	27.49
Lime	1.82	25.26
Other Mineral Matter	3.70	43.15
	100.00	100.00
Containing Nitrogen	1.68	—

A very small amount of seed is available at this office and a little can be supplied to any one who may care to try the plant.

**Green Bug in Mysore.**—The Planting Expert returned to headquarters on 14th April from South Mysore where he had been to inspect the area infected with a sporadic outbreak of Green Bug (*Uecanium viride*). The planters are fully alive to the danger of allowing this pest to go unchecked and, with the assistance of the Scientific Assistant for Mysore, are doing everything in their power to tackle it at once, with the result that it is under thorough control and there is every prospect of its being stamped out, or at least kept from spreading. There appears to be no reason whatever for panic, or for regarding this outbreak in a pessimistic light. The Scientific Assistant for Coorg has been sent by the special Committee, who control his work, to study the Bug and the methods for its eradication which are being adopted in Mysore in order that they may be quite prepared to follow suit should it spread over the border. In the next issue of the *Chronicle* it is hoped to publish something about the policy adopted in Mysore to deal with the outbreak, and to discuss the question of how it may have been introduced.

R. D. A.

## DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

### South Mysore Planters' Association.

*Forty-Ninth Annual General Meeting held at the Travellers' Bungalow, Saklaspur, March 24th, 1913.*

PRESENT.—Messrs. W. L. Crawford, S. Sladden, C. Lake, C. K. Pittock, E. W. Rutherford, W. F. Scholfield, Thiselton Anderson, A. Thomson, A. R. Park, M. J. Woodbridge, (Hony. Secretary,) Honorary Member, G. N. Frattini, (Assistant Scientific Officer.)  
Visitor:—Mr. Hill.

Mr. W. L. Crawford was voted to the Chair and read the following letter from the President, Mr. F. M. Hamilton:—

Subbanhulli, Mudigere, Kadur District,  
20th January, 1913.

THE HONORARY SECRETARY, AND MEMBERS,  
"South Mysore Planters' Association."

Dear Sirs,—I wish to place my resignation in your hands. I am sorry I am not able to hold the position of President S. M. P. A. until our Annual General Meeting in April, but I find I am bound to leave for England early in February.

As regards matters now before the Association, I would like to make a few remarks:—

*Extradition.*—It has been suggested to me that, although this is impossible under Act XIII of 59 it might be possible to get warrants for service in Foreign States, if the Magistrate passed an order which accented failed to carry out. It is further suggested that the Association should approach the Mysore Government (not Madras Government) with a view to seeing whether they could not induce Madras Government to grant some degree of extradition.

*Representation of Hassan District Board.*—The Honorary Secretary can give you latest developments and show you correspondence.

*Tell-Gates, Arsikere Road.*—This matter has been referred to the Dewan.

*Alteration of Tenure and Title Deeds.*—As far as I can gather, there is a great probability that Government after re-survey and settlement will give lands now held on Rupee 1 assessment (30 years' tenure) on permanent tenure without payment of such taxes.

In October last Government issued an order that Title Deeds need not be granted to persons who were not the original grantees. This has been taken to mean that Title Deeds will be issued for lands acquired from others than Government direct. I think representations should be made to Government pointing out the hardships.

Gentlemen, I wish to thank you very much for the honour you did me in electing me President and I wish to personally thank our Honorary Secretary for the very efficient way he has carried on the work of the Association.

I am,  
Gentlemen,  
Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) FRANCIS M. HAMILTON,  
and opened the meeting with a short address.

Gentlemen,—Our President for the year having resigned and gone to England on a holiday, and you having done me the honour of electing me Chairman of this meeting, I feel at a considerable disadvantage as it is usual for the President to give you a resumé of the year's work at the Annual General Meeting.

I am unfortunately unable to do this but I will endeavour to briefly allude to a few subjects of general interest.

The past year will be always memorable in the annals of this Association for two things; firstly, the combined Planters' Associations of Mysore have at last their own Scientific Assistant, and he is now at work amongst us. I feel sure if he receives the support, he should, in his endeavours, carry out his experimental and research work; we, as a community, will derive great benefit from the same. I would, however, like to definitely state that Mr. Frattini's usefulness as a Scientific Assistant to the Coffee Industry in Mysore will in no small measure rest with ourselves, 'as we know, or should know exactly, where we need scientific help and guidance in our work, and it is for us to bring our wants and requirements to his notice, and help him as much as we can to find a solution for the various problems we have confronting us. It is quite hopeless to expect our Scientific Officer to do everything himself; we must first give him the help our past experience and local knowledge of our industry has taught us, and then endeavour to direct research and experiments along the lines that will have the maximum benefit to ourselves. If there is natural co-operation and assistance between the Assistant Scientific Officer and ourselves it will be very largely our own fault if we do not derive great benefit from his investigations and experiments.

The Government of Mysore have made up their minds to very largely develop railway construction in the State, and have appointed a Railway Engineer of great experience and reputation to go thoroughly into all the railway requirements of Mysore, with a view to the economic development of the Province and to advise them as to the most important lines to construct first.

This Association has, during the past twenty-five years again and again, pointed out that it matters not how much railways are developed in Mysore, their maximum usefulness will never be attained until direct railway communication to the West Coast through Mangalore is established. We are all of us more convinced now more than ever that a line from some point on the existing railway system to Mangalore is of vital importance to the State, and I unhesitatingly say the first link in the chain of railway development in Mysore should be the one leading to the West Coast.

Sooner or later, the vested interests, and I go further and say hostile interests, and influences now at work to prevent the natural developments of the State of Mysore will be forced to stand aside, as it is nothing short of a public scandal that it should be possible for any interests vested or otherwise to prevent a progressive State like Mysore developing its own provinces and resources in a manner most suitable to its own local requirements and necessities, and we look to the paramount power to insist upon justice being done Mysore in this respect, and also doing their share of the work by constructing their short section of railway from the Mysore frontier to the West Coast at Mangalore.

It gave the whole community, European and Indian, the greatest pleasure to welcome their Highnesses the Maharaja and Yuvaraja to the planting districts of the State, and I feel sure their Highnesses will retain very pleasant recollections of this beautiful and interesting part of their territory.

I think we may conclude it is His Highness the Maharaja's interest in and concern for, the Muluwad, that initiated, the prolonged tour of Mr.

Visbveswaraya, C. I. E., the Dewan, in this portion of Mysore, and you will agree with me in believing this personal interest evinced by the Maharaja and his Dewan will tend to foster and develop a larger and more sympathetic interest in this most important part of Mysore, its people, interests and industries.

In conclusion, I would point out that this Association will celebrate its Jubilee early next year and it remains for us to make arrangements to celebrate its fiftieth birthday in a suitable manner. I now call upon the Honorary Secretary to read his report.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Gentlemen,—There are 32 members of the Association 30 representing 45 Estates with a planted area of 6901 acres, but of these 2 gentlemen representing 141 acres have paid no subscriptions for 2 years and will answer no letters and cannot, therefore, be counted for purposes of assessment; there are also 2 personal members.

We have lost 3 members during the year, 2 having left the country and one having resigned, one personal member has also left the district and we have gained one new member.

ACCOUNTS.—The accounts for the past year are before you and show a credit balance of cash Rs. 904.14.9, and Reserve fund Rs.50.

There is still a certain amount to be paid to the Assistant Scientific Officer's Fund between now and June 30th the amount of which, I am unable to give as a call will be made through the Council of Planters' Association on an equal acreage basis when money is required for this fund. This, you will see in the Budget estimates I have put this down as Rs.1,000.

The Budget, Gentlemen, is, of course, only an estimate and shows a surplus of Rs. 587.14.9. I have not put down anything for expenses of delegates to U. P. A. as this was not drawn last year. I am also unable to estimate the amount of outstandings, there will be next year. ~~so~~ I advise you to deal gently with the surplus, as unless subscriptions ~~are~~ paid more promptly next year than they have been this year, there will ~~probably~~ be a deficit of cash in the hands of the Secretary in the early part of the year. I have also left out of the budget the subscriptions to the Planters' Benevolent Fund. I shall be glad to answer any questions as to accounts and budget to the best of my ability, when this subject comes up for discussion.

MEETINGS.—There have been 4 general meetings during the year which have been held in different parts of our district and have been fairly well attended. By holding them in different parts nearly every member of the Association has attended one or other of the meetings. ~~These meetings~~ have been made necessary by some subject on the agenda such as instructions to delegates to U. P. A., election and instructions of delegates to Dasseru and election of Member of Council which could only be done at a general meeting and in consequence there has been no necessity for group meetings. As regards the work done this year there has been a good deal of correspondence in the early part of the year with the U. P. A. over the change of Secretaries and rearrangements of accounts. As one of your representatives on the Council of Mysore Planters' Associations, I have attended 3 meetings, 2 in Mudigere and one in Chickmagalur at which arrangements were made with Mr. Anstead as to the control of the Assistant Scientific Officer and arrangements made for the equal distribution of the cost of the Assistant Scientific Officer between the 3 Mysore Associations on an acreage basis, which arrangement you will be asked to sanction when this subject comes up for discussion.



**ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS.**—The correspondence that has taken place in connection with Toll-gates on the Hassan Road will be laid on the table. Complaints as to the state of the roads in Hassan District have been made to the Chief Engineer, but so far no reply has been received.

**LABOUR.**—A 'Scheme of Registration' by means of finger prints has been circulated to the members and was fully discussed at the Hanbalu meeting and copies of the resolutions thereon sent to the Secretary, U. P. A. and it was suggested that the Committee appointed by the U. P. A. should issue a progress report. This they have not yet done.

**LEGISLATION.**—The question of 'Title Deeds' and 'Extradition' were brought forward during our interview with the Dewan in Saklaspur; the question of a seat on the Hassan Local Board is still a subject of correspondence with the Dewan.

**PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.**—I should like to call attention to the fact that there is still Rs. 100 of promised subscriptions to this fund that have not yet been paid.

During the year we had the honour of a visit from His Highness the Maharaja and the Resident, Sir Hugh Daly, and a few days ago the Dewan received a deputation and gave us a patient hearing on all the subjects brought forward. We have to regret the death of Mr. Devaraj Urs who was known to many of us when Deputy Commissioner in Hassan.

In conclusion, I should like to record the great assistance I have received from our President, Mr. F. M. Hamilton, and to thank Mr. W. L. Crawford for his help and advice.

I place my resignation in your hands.

**ACCOUNTS.**—The accounts having been previously audited by Mr. C. Lake were passed and the budget for the coming year adopted.

**RAILWAYS.**—The following resolution was put from the Chair and passed unanimously:—"That this Association again place on record its unalterable opinion that any scheme of railway construction drawn up for the economic development of the Mysore Province should have as its keystone direct communication with the West Coast to Mangalore, the natural port of Mysore, and seeing that the Mysore Durbar are willing to construct their portion of the proposed line lying within the borders of that State, this Association resolves to request the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., to bring the whole facts of the case before the Secretary of State for India, and urge upon him the necessity which exists for the Government of India, to sanction the construction of the section running from the Mysore frontier to Mangalore, a distance of about 50 miles, and that the Planting Member on the Council of Fort St. George be asked to personally bring the matter to the notice of the Madras Government."

**ROADS.**—Attention was drawn to several of the roads in the district and the opinion of all members present seemed to be that the bad condition of the roads was due entirely to lack of supervision and not to want of funds, and a resolution as below was passed:—"That this Association is of opinion that the Belur, Gonibede, Belur, Bargui, Balu, Kenchamman Hoskote, Kerode roads and part of the Munjarabad-Mangalore road are in a deplorable condition and attributes this state of affairs to lack of proper and adequate supervision rather than to insufficient grants for up-keep, and that this Association do write to the Chief Engineer to make satisfactory and sufficient arrangements to ensure that repairs sanctioned by the Public Works Department be done in an efficient manner and at the right season of the year." Proposed by Mr. C. K. Pittock and seconded by Mr. C. Lake.

**LABOUR.—REGISTRATION SCHEME.**—This subject having previously been fully discussed at the General Meeting held at Hanbalu in November

last it was proposed by Mr. S. Sladden and seconded by Mr. A. Thomson :—  
 "That a Sub-Committee of 3 be appointed to go into and criticise the proposed 'Registration Scheme' and submit their views to a special General Meeting which shall be called before the next meeting of the U. P. A." This was agreed to and a Sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. C. K. Pittock, J. G. Hamilton and C. J. Hayward was appointed.

LEGISLATION.—GRANT OF TITLE DEEDS.—It was decided that Mr. W. L. Crawford be asked to draw up a memorandum and forward it to Government through the Association.

MEDICAL.—The Honorary Secretary was instructed to press for the early establishment of a Dispensary at Goubede and for a greater number of Dispensaries throughout the Mulnaad. It was also noted with satisfaction that the new Dispensary at Saklasapur has been opened to the public.

SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.—MYSORE SCIENTIFIC ASSISTANT.—As what seems to be a sporadic outbreak of green bug has been reported and as under these circumstances it is important that every effort should be made to stamp out the pest before it gains a further footing in Mysore; it was proposed by Mr. S. Sladden and seconded by Mr. E. W. Rutherford :—  
 "That owing to the discovery of green bug in Mysore that the Assistant Scientific Officer's services are urgently needed to deal with the outbreak, and the Council be requested to allow Mr. Frattini to devote the whole of his time to the stamping out of the pest and his programme be altered accordingly." Mr. Frattini showed specimens of green bug to those present at the meeting so that members should know what to look for and how to identify it.

LABORATORY FOR MYSORE ASSISTANT.—The Meeting endorsed the action of the South Mysore Planters' Association members of the Council of Mysore Planters' Associations in voting for the establishment of a laboratory.

RE-ARRANGEMENT OF GUARANTEES TO U. P. A. FOR THE SCIENTIFIC ASSISTANT'S FUND.—The formal sanction of the Association was given for the alterations of the guarantees to the U. P. A. for the Mysore Scientific Assistant's Fund, rendered necessary by the re-distribution of subscriptions between the 3 Associations on an acreage basis.

RE-APPOINTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC OFFICER BY GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.—Read letter from the Secretary, U. P. A. and copy of letter from the Honorable Mr. L. M. Wynch, C.I.E., I.C.S., re re-appointment of Scientific Officer.

The following resolution was put from the Chair and carried unanimously:—  
 "That this Association wishes to place on record its gratitude to the Governments of Madras and Mysore for their assistance with regard to the appointment of the Scientific Officer for the Planting Industries of Southern India and gladly agree to continue their contribution for another period of 5 years."

JURILEE OF THE S. M. P. A.—Mr. Graham Anderson with the incoming President and Honorary Secretary were appointed a Committee to arrange for the proper celebration of the 50th year since the foundation of this Association.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—The following were elected office-bearers for the coming year:—

President	..	Mr. W. L. Crawford.
Honorary Secretary	...	Mr. M. J. Woodbridge.
Committee	...	Messrs. C. Lake, C. J. Hayward, Thiselton Anderson, A. R. Park, C. K. Pittock, and A. Thomson.

(Signed) M. J. WOODBRIDGE, *Hon. Secretary.*

**CORRESPONDENCE.****Labour Recruiting in Planting Districts.**

Artadia,  
Nagalur, Shevaroy's,  
16-4-13.

THE EDITOR,  
*Planters' Chronicle.*

Dear Sir,—I shall feel much obliged if you will kindly publish the following facts in the next issue of the *P. C.* for the benefit of members of the S. P. A. and as a note of warning to other associations interested in the above subject.

That Mr. T. G. Daly from Burma visited Yercaud between the 1st and 12th April and put up at Fairlawns Hotel. I have been given to understand that he led people there (especially those connected with the planting industry on these Hills) to believe that he was up for a holiday. This does not appear to be quite the case, as one of our members (Mr. F. D. Short) sent me a packet containing printed Circulars in Tamil that have been widely distributed by Mr. Daly in the native localities of Yercaud and the surrounding Estates. I had one of the Circulars translated into English which I enclose. I am informed that the recruiter is now in Salem and from there proceeds to Calicut. Doubtless his Circular will prove very attractive to the cleanly Malabar cooly as far as the services of "Washerman" and "Barber" are concerned. It is a pity the Estate in question does not provide a 1st class covered in swimming bath, etc., water (of course under European superintendence)—one for ladies and one for gents—mixed bathing to be allowed only after closing a two years' agreement. This ought to fetch them by the ship-load.

I am,  
Dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) CHAS. DICKINS,  
*Hony. Secy., S. P. A.*

**Contents of Circular.**

SUJIN RUBBER ESTATE, LTD., RANGOON, BURMA.

This is to notify to all classes of people that—

- (1.) The Proprietors of the Sujin Rubber Estate have deputed Mr. T. J. Daly, their European Superintendent, to collect coolies from the Madras Presidency and send to them.
- (2.) The above mentioned Sujin Estate enjoys a superior climate, agreeable to the health of the people and is a few hours journey from Rangoon.
- (3.) Free quarters are given to coolies and the houses are built of Teakwood and are convenient to live in. There are clean drinking water wells. Able doctors examine patients and give medicines gratis. There is a hospital on the Estate. Besides this, there is a Telegraph office and arrack shops. Bazaars have been established in the Estate itself wherein rice, vegetables and provisions may be had for prices cheaper than this country.

(4.) Should advances of wages be needed to purchase provisions from the bazaar therewith they will be given every Saturday and the same will be deducted from the pay for the month.

(5.) Each month's pay will be disbursed between the 10th and the 14th of the month.

(6.) Coolies who work in the Estates will receive wages as per schedule below :—

(1.) For a day for men	...	...	8 annas.
(2.) For youth between 14 and 16	...	...	5 annas.
(3.) For a woman	...	...	6 annas.
(4.) For children	...	...	3 to 4 annas.

(7.) Those who work more hours than they are required to do for the wages they get, will receive additional wages for the extra work they do at the following rates per hour :—

men 2 annas; women 1 anna 6 pies; children 1 anna 3 pies.

(8.) Agreements will be taken from the coolies binding them to work for two years. When coolies go to work they are allowed to bring children between 9 and 12 years of age to work along with men or women. They will receive wages at the specified rates besides the monthly wages. This will be of great advantage to them.

(9.) Those who give guaranteed agreements for three years are entitled to get gratis all expenses incurred for the journey from their house to the place where they have to work.

(10.) Those who give agreements binding them and their family to work will be given cost of all expenses which will be deducted from their pay in the monthly instalments at Rs. 4 for each man and Rs. 3 for each woman.

(11.) Should men or women either married or parents happen to bring with them to the Estate persons who are incapacitated for work the latter will receive monthly pay gratis.

(12.) *The services of Washermen to wash clothes and Barbers to shave are available on the Estate.*

(13.) There is a Depot at Salem for the coolies, and those who may be desirous of knowing further particulars may obtain personally from the undersigned Superintendent.

(Signed) T. G. DALY,

*Supdt. Sujin Rubber Estate, Salem.*

#### AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN ITALY.

By Royal decree the Higher Council of Agricultural, Industrial and Commercial Instruction in Italy was abolished in December 1911, and a Council for Agricultural Instruction substituted. The new Council is to consist of fourteen members appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, and is to give advice regarding proposed legislation and general provision for agricultural instruction, agricultural schools of all kinds, aid to students, and other questions relating to agriculture, forestry, and zootechnical studies which he may refer to it.—*Agricultural News.*